

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

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SUBJECT Reorganization and Training of the Berlin
East Sector Paramilitary Police

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1. On 20 April, orders were issued detaching all Saxon personnel from the effectives of the paramilitary units stationed in Berlin. This affects only the 3rd and 4th Bereitschaften, because the 1st and 2nd are staffed exclusively with Berlin personnel. The 346 Saxons affected have been placed at the disposal of the German Administration of the Interior, to be formed into a new Abteilung* with other units drawn from the zonal pool. This unit will be commanded by Oberinspektor (fnu) Wolf, formerly chief of the 3rd Bereitschaft, and will have approximately 1,100 men.** It is contemplated that the new Abteilung will be employed in guarding the Berlin perimeter ("Berliner Ring"). Within the Abteilung, Kommandaturen and Kommandos will be organized.
2. According to source, this action is hardly warranted by the Saxons' state of training and notoriously lax discipline. However, they can probably be relied upon politically. Originally, Chief of Police Paul Markgraf had been instructed to provide his two best Bereitschaften, but he interpreted this order as offering him an opportunity of getting rid of the Saxons whose concepts of military service fundamentally differed from his.
3. The Soviets have ordered a significant change in the training plans for these 346 Saxons. All formal training (field drill, firing, etc.) has been discontinued and exclusive stress will be placed upon theoretical instruction covering the handling of border control (control of passengers and vehicles, illegal border crossings, paper work in connection with confiscations, arrests, etc.) and guard and border patrol duties. As part of the program designed to ready this unit for border control duties its personnel has been scrutinized to locate officer and non-commissioned officer material.
4. The training schedule issued for this purpose provides for completion of the course within eight days. In charge of training is (fnu) Kunnisch, formerly in charge of the 4th Bereitschaft. Kunnisch, although a Saxon, will not be transferred out of the Berlin units, but is slated to be put in charge of one of the units to be reactivated.
5. The Russian officers entrusted with the control of paramilitary developments in the Berlin area appear to be particularly interested in the progress of training of this unit and, as a result, inspection visits have become an almost daily occurrence.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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6. One hundred fifty men, all Berliners, remain in the two depleted units, which have reverted to the status of training units. The training schedules for the period May to October for the Bereitschaften have been submitted by the GAI to the SMA for approval. These 150 men will be divided among the 3rd and 4th Bereitschaften and will be utilized as training cadres. Raw recruits will have to be enrolled to bring these Bereitschaften up to T/O strength.*** Their training will be based on the basic training directive which was prepared by Abteilung Bereitschaften, Berlin Polizeipräsidentium.**** This directive calls for a training period of six weeks and is strictly basic (Grundausbildung). A special training course has been initiated for the benefit of the future squad and platoon leaders of this training cadre.

25X1X6 * ~~SECRET/CONTROL~~ Comment: The term "Abteilung" in this connection should be understood as denoting a headquarters set-up controlling several paramilitary units, although the term has not been officially incorporated into paramilitary parlance in this connection.

25X1A2g ** See ~~SECRET/CONTROL~~

25X1A6a*** ~~SECRET/CONTROL~~ Comment: The same source in ~~SECRET/CONTROL~~ 25X1A2g gives the authorized strength of each Bereitschaft as 250 men.

**** See paragraph 10, ~~SECRET/CONTROL~~ 25X1A2g

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